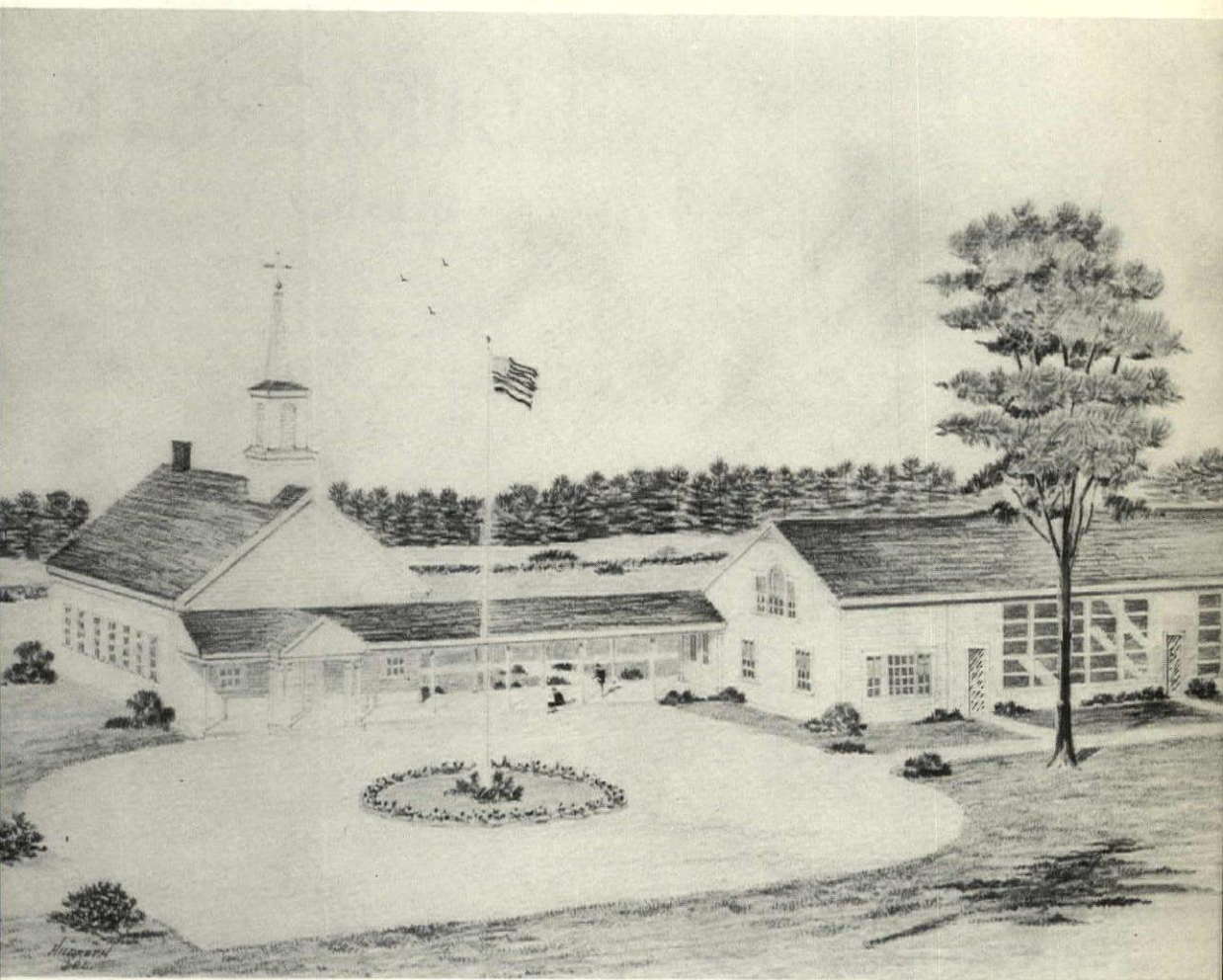


NOVEMBER

1952

New Hampshire ARCHITECT



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

New Hampshire Chapter of the American Institute of Architects



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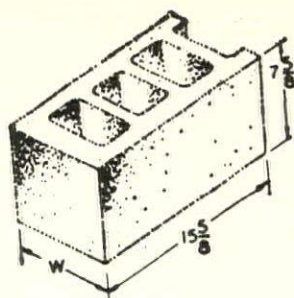
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NO. 4

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ON THE COVER

Nottingham Elementary School, Nottingham, N. H.
Tracy & Hildreth, Architects.

THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS

By the time this appears in print the election will be over and we will know whether under a Democrat we will have to continue trying to build with dollars that are not worth anything, or whether under a Republican we may be trying to build with dollars so dear that nobody will have any. That is, if partisan claims are to be believed.

I heard a staunch Republican say the other day that he hoped Adlai would win because there is sure to be another big depression within the next three years. If such a thing came during a Republican administration, the Party would never survive it again. Even if Ike does get in, I hope this statement will not be put to the test.

At the national level the influence of government on building, and therefore on the practice of architecture, has increased very markedly since the great depression of the early 30's. Probably government's influence in other fields has grown just as much. Some of this is good and some of it is bad. Constant vigilance is required to promote the former and check the latter.

In New Hampshire two laws and the lack of a third have had a big influence on architecture and building. The two laws are the Architect's Registration Law, passed in 1947, and the Reorganization Act, passed in 1951, which among other things established the Department of Public Works and Highways. The third, which we lack, is State Aid for School Construction.

Are any changes desirable in this legislation? The Registration Law is vague in its provisions for enforcement and needs strengthening and publicity, as unregistered and therefore presumably unqualified persons are continuing to practice or offer to practice architecture. Should a Board of Registration do nothing beyond registering new applicants or should it be responsible to any extent for enforcement?

The Department of Public Works and Highways has been very busy, but little is known in this corner about what is going on there. With regard to Highways we suspect they are doing very well because their engineering design and supervision are a continuation of what they were doing before.

Moreover, public highway engineering does not compete with private endeavor. Will other public works eventually be also denied to private endeavor? How large is the staff now as compared with a year ago? How much does the Public Works Department cost per unit of construction cost supervised? These and many other questions need to be answered.

Some legislation is needed to provide state aid for school construction. Architects should not be suspected of selfish motives in plugging for this type of aid. When we were in school, and since, most of our activities have been competitive—athletics, studies, business and profession—and none of us likes to be at the bottom of the heap. That is why we view with alarm the school situation in New Hampshire—fewer new schools being built and less state aid, than in most of the 48 states. Is there any real reason why our children and our teachers must have poorer and older facilities than most others? Although it is said that children can learn as well in a 2-car garage as in a \$30,000 classroom, the question is, *will* they, and will teachers come to work in such classrooms?

I do not believe it is necessary yet (unless the election comes out wrong!) for New Hampshire to give up trying to do as well as any other state in *anything*.

Eugene J. Magenan

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ARCHITEXTOPICS

By Richard Koehler, A.I.A.

There is a little rustling of things, a tightening of soft muscle and a healthy snap to dull eyes which so long have just stared.

There is a growing impatience with nonsense in business, nonsense in politics and nonsense in education. Fan fare, smoke screen, lip-service and the reign of the "cut-me-in-too" fellow are losing ground. Not only are we asking for a new broom, but we want very much that it be used. In substance we are coming to realize that the ragged threads we hold might once again be made into a coat of honor.

To those of engineering, architecture and construction, to the men of these professions who day into night have faced tangible and intangible problems and daily delivered facts to solve these problems, it should be some solace to know that the days of the bluffer are numbered. So long have we listened to, read and tasted exaggerated claims for a product that we have almost believed them. When answering a question with "I don't know!" I shocked a banker friend who countered with "Can't you even guess the answer?" Even he wanted an answer, any answer, regardless of quality.

Real truth in architecture is more often found in the office where the architect has full knowledge of every phase of his work. If, however, his talents are suent on the business side or shall we say the cocktail and party side or the adlibbing side, then his work can only be shadow boxing. It is unfortunate that in the past (I prefer to place this in the past) many a commission has gone to the lilletante, the sofa-architect or the over-worked nasal twang without regard for the natural honest-to-goodness ability of the craftsman. To rob a phrase: "Ask the man who built from an architect's plans, what he thinks of his work."

The "successful" practice of architecture in some instances must create a desire in the heart of the new recruit to sharpen all but the architectural tools in his kit. To these young men and women I say look us all over, if it's a fast buck you want then roll up your sleeves and join a plan factory, if it's know-how find a small office where the pay is usually small but steady and where you will be hung-dry with real doing.

To those of the A. I. A. who for year after year have contributed no more to its purpose, its hope to raise the standards of the profession than to pay dues, who with a flip: "Oh yes, I'm A. I. A." enjoy the sweat of others effort I ask, "As regards this state chapter could you wear your big shiny red button if it were not for the Tracy's, Magenau's, White's, Witmer's, Huddleston's, Randlett's, Peterson's and a host of others? Or would you enjoy the privileges by proxy from the Boston chapter?"

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The Bidding Service Committee has completed its report and presented it to the chapter and all resolutions have been accepted with the exception of the #1 resolution, which will be acted upon at the November 20th meeting.

Registration Board Grants Eleven Certificates

The New Hampshire Board of Registration for Architects granted certificates to 11 local and out of state architects:

Eugene Weisberg	Lowell, Mass.
Arthur W. Osberg	Manchester, N. H.
Willis E. Littleleld	Dover, N. H.
Jay C. Van Nuys	Somerville, N. J.
William W. Drummey	Boston, Mass.
Isidor Richmond	Boston, Mass.
Alexander R. James	Dublin, N. H.
Geoffrey Platt	New York, N. Y.
William Platt	New York, N. Y.
George J. Maguolo	St. Louis, Mo.
Andrew C. Isaak	Manchester, N. H.

Excerpt From Registration Laws

As amended by Chapter 170, Laws of 1951.

Effective date July 11, 1951.

(24) *Interpretation.* It shall be a violation of this chapter, subjecting such person to the penalties provided in section 28, for any person, without a certificate of registration from the board, to practice architecture in this state as an architect, or to offer, or to advertise or hold himself out to the public, to practice architecture in this state as an architect. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit a professional engineer from doing such architectural work as is incidental to his engineering work. Nothing contained in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit any person from becoming registered both as an architect and as a professional engineer, providing such person meets the statutory requirements for said registration.

Two Architects Open Topeka Design Forum

Design Forum, a new store offering only modern lines, has opened in Topeka, Kan. Bill Kiene and Jack Bradley planned the store to fill a need for coordinated home and furnishings programs.

The owners are architects who could not find the right kind of furniture to fit some of their contemporary home designs.

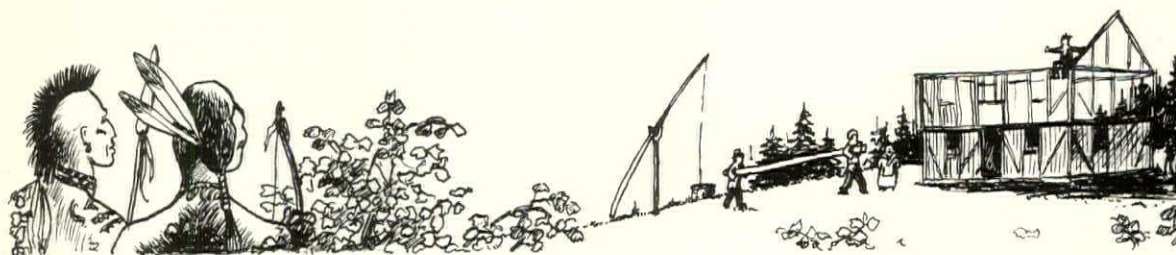
Interior of the store on West Sixth, main crosstown trafficway, was adapted to furnish a modern background for the lines handled. Ceiling is blue fog, one wall is coral, one is sandstone and a back panel is pine.

Seven room setups are displayed in the store. Furnishings include paintings, sculpture and reproductions of recognized art works. The owners expect special orders on fabrics for standard design furniture to constitute a fair part of their business.

Exposed studding forms recessed carriers for display bins adjustable for angle and height. Trade signs are also fitted into the recesses under a grilled ceiling. The display wall offers extreme versatility through its quick-change bin system and the straight lines are especially adaptable to the modern setting.

Owners believe the store will fill the need for a straight modern line of home furnishings and will enable customers to plan furnishings at the same time they select house plans.

"It takes both a house and furnishings to make a 'home,'" Bill Kiene said. "The earlier the customer can coordinate plans for both, the better satisfied he will be. We think we have the answer in our new store."



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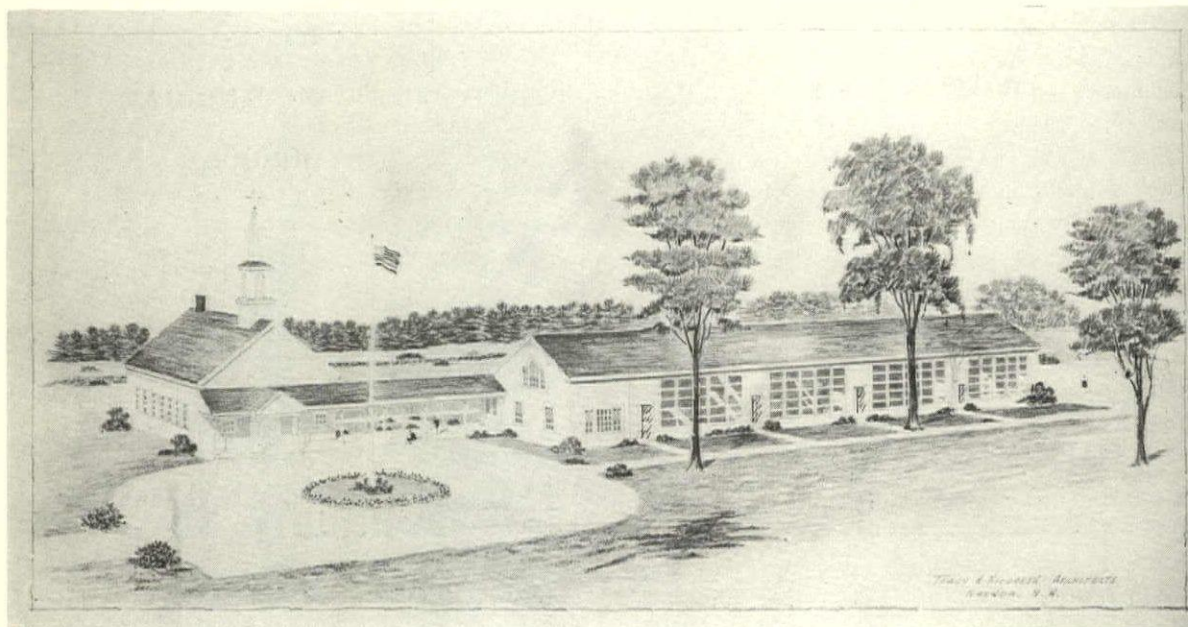
ARCHITECTS of the MONTH

STEPHEN POWELL TRACY, A.I.A.

MALCOLM DEE HILDRETH, A.I.A.

Nottingham Elementary School

Nottingham, New Hampshire

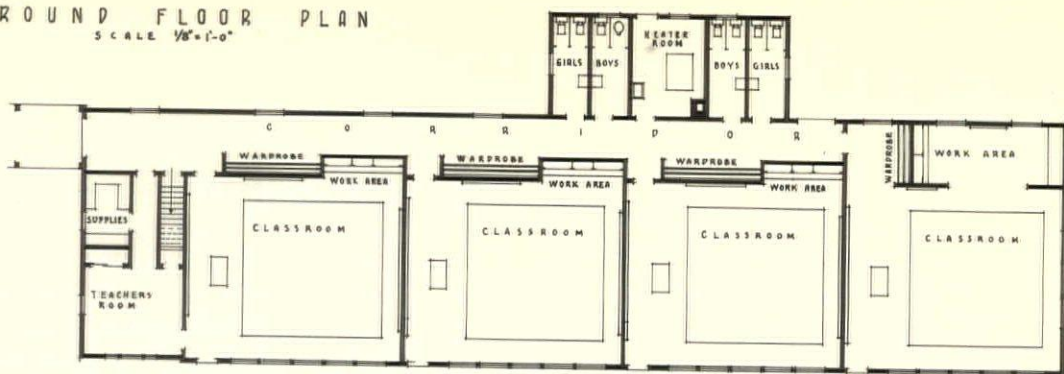


Malcolm Dee Hildreth, born West Campton, N. H., March 3, 1904. Attended University of N. H., B. S. Trained in offices of Chase R. Whitcher, Carl E. Peterson, Stone & Webster, Lyford and Magenau, Stephen P. Tracy, Tracy & Hildreth. Registered in New Hampshire. Member of firm of Tracy & Hildreth, Nashua, N. H.



GROUND FLOOR PLAN

SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"



The new four-room school now under construction for the Town of Nottingham will soon replace two small rural schools which have become inadequate because of their size and obsolete because of their age. The new school is located on a 16 acre site located near the center of the community.

The structure is a wood-frame building with a clapboard exterior, these materials having been selected because of budgetary limitations and also because it was felt by the School Board and the citizens of the community that such a building would harmonize better with the nearby wood Colonial public buildings and residences which make up the village of which the new school will be a part.

The building consists of four classrooms, a teachers' room which also serves as the nurse's room, a library on the second floor, four toilet rooms, a heater room, and the

necessary supply and storage facilities. The classroom for the younger pupils boasts a large activity area and has its wardrobes inside the room. Wardrobes for the other classrooms are in the corridor directly outside the classroom doors. Each classroom has its own door opening directly to the playground area outside.

It is planned to move one of the discontinued school buildings to the new site where it will be connected to the new structure by means of a covered passageway. This old building will be remodeled to serve as an assembly hall and cafeteria. In anticipation of the possibility of increased pupil population in the future, the building has been arranged so that the addition of more classrooms can be easily accomplished.

The floor is a concrete slab on earth with asphalt tile applied to the slab. Walls are plastered, and ceilings are either accoustical tile or plaster depending upon the use of the room. The roofing is asphalt composition shingles. Other features are green chalkboards and corkboards, work counters, storage cabinets, IBM signal system and clock system. Windows are wood awning type.

Heating is by forced warm air with trunk line ducts in the space over the corridor and with high wall registers. Cold air return ducts consist of trenches under the concrete floor slab. The school has its own artesian well and sewerage disposal system. Lighting fixtures, for the most part, are concentric ring fixtures with silver bowl lamps.

David W. Davison of Manchester is the General Contractor, and the major subcontractors are Sanborn Electric, Manchester, for the electrical work; Walter Parenteau, Manchester, for the plumbing and heating; P. H. McGranahan Co., Manchester, plastering. The cost of the building will be approximately \$47,000.

Stephen Powell Tracy, born Meriden, N. H., December 6, 1905. Attended Kimball Union Academy, Dartmouth College, A. B., Harvard University, Master in Architecture. Trained in offices of Edward T. P. Graham, Architect, Boston; and William H. MacLean, Architect, Boston. Past president of N. H. Chapter A. I. A., and Nashua Rotary Club. Registered in New Hampshire and Massachusetts. Member of firm of Tracy & Hildreth, Nashua, N. H.

Theatre Designed by N. H. Architects to Receive National Award

The new Nugget Theatre in Hanover, of which Orcutt and Marston are the architects, is receiving a bronze merit award plaque as one of the outstanding theatres completed in the country during 1951.

The award, made by the technical editors of "Theatre Catalogue" and the Physical Theatre Department of the magazine "Exhibitor," is based on functional plan, construction quality, maintenance efficiency, patron comforts, and overall excellence of the physical building and its equipment.

The letter announcing the award states that the editors were sufficiently satisfied with the general excellence of the Nugget as to give it a complete pictorial study in the current 10th annual edition of "Theatre Catalogue."

The New Hampshire Architect featured the Nugget Theatre in its January '52 issue.

Defense Housing for Portsmouth, N. H.-Kittery, Maine

The Federal Housing Administration office at Manchester, New Hampshire, has received applications from builders to construct 350 rental dwelling units. In accordance with the previously announced housing program for the Portsmouth, New Hampshire-Kittery, Maine, critical defense area, these units are for the occupancy of in-migrant defense workers employed at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard and Navy personnel.

William F. Baker, FHA Director, said the keen interest shown in the program by builders of Maine, New Hampshire and elsewhere resulted in a very substantial over-subscription of the program. The builders indicate the availability of adequate private financing by New Hampshire banks as well as out of state institutions. Sites in Maine and New Hampshire were proposed by the builders.

In the apportionment of the program, FHA gave consideration to the following factors:

1. The proximity of the site of the proposed housing to the defense plants or installations, and the desirability of the site with respect to transportation, commercial and community facilities and services, utilities, street improvements, and similar relevant factors.

2. The rents to be charged, the size of the units in terms of number of rooms and bedrooms, and the relationship between the accommodations proposed and the proposed rents.

3. The capacity of the applicant to perform.

The following Certificates of Approval were issued:

Joseph F. Kelley, 25 Forest Street Place, Arlington, Massachusetts, 152 units as follows: 19 one-bedroom, rental price \$65.00—89 two-bedroom, rental price \$75.00—44 three-bedroom, rental price \$82.00. Rental prices include no charges for services. All units to be located in Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Westfield Park Associates, 69 Mount Vernon Street, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, 50 two-bedroom units, rental price \$75.00. Rental price includes no charges for services. All units to be located in Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Lucien O. Geoffrion, 1240 Maplewood Avenue, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, 48 units as follows: 6 one-bedroom, rental price \$74.00—36 two-bedroom, rental price \$79.00—6 three-bedroom, rental price \$87.00. Rental prices include charges for heat, hot water and electricity. All units to be located in Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

A. Bruce Sturges, Route 103, Eliot, Maine, 100 units as follows: 50 two-bedroom, rental price \$75.00; 50 three-bedroom, rental price \$82.00. Rental prices include no charges for services. All units to be located in Kittery, Maine.

Construction of units certified for approval under the program will be assisted by aids provided in the Defense Housing Community Facilities and Services Act. These include the availability of special types of FHA mortgage insurance under Title IX of the National Housing Act and suspension of real estate credit restrictions. It is expected that construction of all the units shall start within sixty days. For justifiable reasons, additional time may be granted by the FHA.

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Milford, N. H.

The A.I.A. Accepts Funds

The American Institute of Architects announced here today that it had accepted a bequest of more than \$150,000 which would be added to its scholarship and educational funds.

The action was taken by the directors of the architects national professional society during its semi-annual board meeting.

The gift, not previously announced, was made by Mrs. Antoinette Perrett of Rockport, Mass. Widow of Galen Perrett, an architect and A. I. A. member. She died last June leaving her residuary estate to the Institute.

The bequest brings the Institute's total educational endowment to a figure of approximately \$750,000. Other endowment funds of the organization are also available for educational purposes.

Income from the funds is used by the Institute principally to aid advanced study and research in architecture. It composes the principal source of support for work in this field. Recent projects that have received assistance include: John F. Larkin, University of Pennsylvania, Industrial Dispersal in Baltimore; F. Frederick Bruck, Harvard University, School Building Design; Whitney Murphy, Butler, Pa., City Planning; A. E. Burton, Ames, Iowa, Design of Laboratory Buildings for Atomic Energy Research; Eugene Raskin, Columbia University, Architectural Semantics; Frederick Morris Wells, Cornell University, Interrelationships in the Arts; Sidney W. Little, University of Oregon, Allied Arts Survey; and Heinrich H. Wechter, Schools for the Very Young.

Forecasts Favorable for Building Industry

Continued favorable conditions for the building industry were forecast here today by Glenn Stanton, president of the American Institute of Architects, who released a nationwide survey showing great activity among the nation's architects. Building projects now being drawn up and specified will become contractors jobs and work projects next spring, the Oregon architect pointed out.

In nearly all parts of the country the men who design the nation's buildings were at an all-time peak in activity, the survey found. New school construction was most frequently mentioned as a major current building activity.

The survey also uncovered a mood of uncertainty among architects, Mr. Stanton said. While government building industry controls imposed under national emergency powers may not have retarded building, the fear that they might is proving an unsettling factor.

Many smaller architectural offices have not shared in the current defense building boom, and building industry controls have hurt building projects in commercial, recreational and similar fields.

Architectural work was reported duller in New England and the North Central States, and busiest in the South and on the West Coast.

New Hampshire Chapter

FALL MEETING

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20

Winnisquam House, Lake Winnisquam
Between Tilton and Laconia—Route #3

PROGRAM

Committee Meetings	4:00 P. M.
Executive Committee Meeting ..	5:00 P. M.
Chapter Business Meeting	6:00 P. M.
Dinner	7:00 P. M.
Speaker	7:45 P. M.

Guest Speaker

MR. JAMES H. STRUCK
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To Plan or Not To Plan

"To plan, or not to plan, that is the question.
Whether 'tis saner in the end to figure
The ways and means whereby a country profits
In work and health and higher mode of living,
Or think it done by wishing? To grow, to fret
No more; and by haphazard growth to end
Starvation, unemployment, filthy slums
And all life's problems. 'Tis a consummation
Devoutly to be wished. To grow, to dream;
To dream, perchance to drift; ay, that's the rub,
For in that drifting growth what havoc reigns,
With no provision made for those to come
Or even those of our own age,
When there's no work, no food, no place to live.
What would the dreamer say to facts like these?
The breadline, dole, the poorhouse, or the street,
Because the dream had not foretold such woes?
When careful plans, long laid, might stop such waste
Of human lives and hearts and even souls!
To know, by computation, what should come
By natural growth in each diverging sphere,
And so prepare to meet what ills must come;
And what need not, prevent by future means
To regulate conditions that arise,
Forearmed by knowledge gained throughout the past,
No doubt would be a safer course to steer
Then heedless cruising, rudderless and blind."

—PAULINE KAVANAGH DRUMM

One Story Schools are Safest Architects Say

The present trend in building schools is to lose the building in a large tract of land, according to Savannah delegates to the south-eastern conference of the American Institute of Architects at Atlanta.

The group said the average school built last year was located on 20 acres—three or four times the size of elementary and high school tracts of the past.

The architects recommend structures spread over a comfortable area, connected by side corridors, with related activities housed together.

One-story schools are safest architects said, and 85 per cent of school buildings constructed last year were without basements.

Many a woman has started out playing with fire and ended up cooking over it.

A recent issue of a popular "Home" magazine devoted to the "do it yourself" theme, mentions an architect only once. The contributors are all designers; "Housewife designer,"—"interior designer" and just plain designer, which is very well indeed for certainly their work as published has much to praise, and does serve to show us what many people want in their homes today.

But alas, our poor architect, he is called or calls himself a "Designer-Architect." One might as well speak of "swimming fish" or "flying birds," unless in our public relations we really are "flying fish," to the average home builder.

A pat on the back develops character if administered young enough, often enough, and low enough.
Richard Scott.

There is not enough darkness in the whole world to put out the light of a single candle. Anon.

The cold gals never get the fur coats.

Some people get the idea they are worth a lot of money, just because they have it.

Funny thing about trouble . . . it always starts out being fun.

A nation is on the decline when its married people believe a pair beats a full house.

A friend is one who walks in when the rest of the world walks out.

The Gettysburg address may have been composed by Lincoln in an hour, but the thought expressed took a lifetime of preparation.

One can pay back the loan of gold, but one dies forever in debt to those who are kind.

Malayan Proverb.

Our opinions become fixed at the point where we stop thinking.
Renan.

If age is strictly honest with youth, it has to tell it things that are not altogether good for youth to take to heart. The experience of the youth is largely made up of vanished dreams, deluded hopes and frustrated ambitions. But it is the very dreams, hopes and ambitions of youth that accomplish so many things that age in its wisdom knows to be impossible. Where would the world be if wisdom ruled youth and power rested in age?
Thomas F. Woodlock

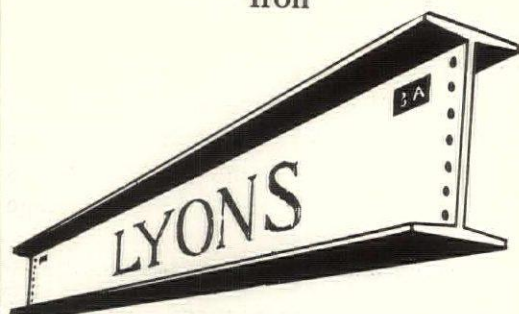
Pay no attention to what critics say. There has never been set up a statue in honor of a critic.
Silebius

The difference between perseverance and obstinacy is that one comes from a strong will, and the other from a strong won't.
Anon.

An obstinate man does not hold opinions, they hold him.
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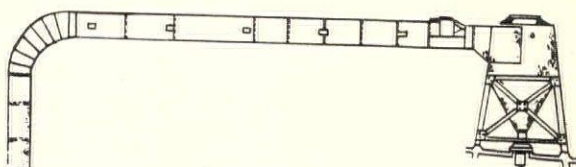
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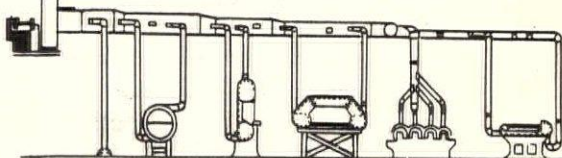
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